

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 23, 2009

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 13, 2009

SENATE BILL

No. 747

**Introduced by Senator Romero
(Coauthor: Senator Hancock)**

February 27, 2009

An act to add and repeal Section 8157 of the Education Code, relating to career technical education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 747, as amended, Romero. Career technical education: ~~aerospace~~. pilot preapprentice aerospace machining program.

Existing law establishes the Health Science and Medical Technology Project, administered by the State Department of Education to provide competitive grant funds to California public schools to enhance existing or establish new health-related career pathway programs.

This bill would state findings and declarations of the Legislature regarding California's aerospace workforce and trends in California's high schools. This bill would create a pilot preapprentice aerospace machining program, implemented by the California Community Colleges system, to provide career technical education to high school pupils in the form of machining and related curriculum that can be applied to various manufacturing industries in California, including, but not limited to, aerospace manufacturing, as specified. The program would be funded by a combination of public and private funds that would be deposited into the Machinist Investment Fund, which would be created by this bill. Grants would be competitively awarded to community colleges based upon specified criteria, including their ability to address the existing local and regional industry manufacturing needs, while

providing meaningful career technical education opportunities for at-risk youth. This bill would require the California Community Colleges system to develop preapprenticeship curriculum in aerospace technology, and machining technology generally. This bill would provide that its provisions would remain in effect until January 1, 2015.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.

State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares all of
2 the following:

3 (a) Despite the departure of several companies since the military
4 base closures of the early 1990s, the aerospace industry remains
5 a vital component of California's economy, representing at least
6 370,000 jobs statewide and a minimum of thirty-two billion dollars
7 (\$32,000,000,000) annually in gross domestic product.

8 (b) There will be a dearth of skilled machinists and technicians
9 to work in the aerospace industry as the baby boomers begin to
10 retire over the next decade.

11 (c) The aerospace industry is currently addressing its labor needs
12 by luring skilled labor away from competing companies.

13 (d) The highly skilled labor sought by the aerospace industry
14 is represented by a finite, aging pool of employees who, under
15 current conditions, will not be readily replaced by younger workers.

16 (e) The continued growth of the aerospace industry is pivotal
17 to California's future prosperity.

18 (f) Unless the Legislature acts to address labor workforce needs
19 in this sector, the aerospace industry will continue to leave
20 California or import a far greater proportion of foreign labor, in
21 either case, causing significant damage to the state's economy.

22 (g) California's high schools are struggling with a dropout rate
23 of 21 percent.

24 (h) A significant factor in California's dropout rate is the
25 existence of curriculum that does not engage pupils with some
26 immediate, real-world application.

27 (i) Pupils who drop out of high school are often unable to find
28 suitable entry-level employment and have little chance of
29 continuing on to higher education, and there is a strong chance
30 that they will ultimately join California's prison population, given

1 the statistic that at least two-thirds of the current inmate population
2 does not possess a high school diploma.

3 (j) The dropout rate is likely to hold, and possibly worsen, unless
4 the state acts to provide hands-on high school curriculum with
5 cross-over mathematics and science applications, that also provides
6 an avenue to both higher education in related disciplines, and to
7 skilled, high-wage employment.

8 SEC. 2. Section 8157 is added to the Education Code, to read:

9 8157. (a) There is hereby established a pilot preapprentice
10 aerospace machining program that shall provide career technical
11 education to high school pupils in the form of machining and
12 related curriculum that can be applied to various manufacturing
13 industries in California, including, but not limited to, aerospace
14 manufacturing. *The curriculum shall include, but not be limited*
15 *to, the following green technologies in aerospace manufacturing:*

16 (1) *Use of computers to assist in metalworking, to eliminate*
17 *waste of aluminum, titanium, and other costly strategic metals in*
18 *the manufacturing process.*

19 (2) *Training in the machining of lighter, strategic metals,*
20 *including titanium and composites, to reduce weight and increase*
21 *aircraft fuel efficiency.*

22 (3) *Training in the fabrication of more energy-efficient aircraft*
23 *ventilation, heating, and cooling systems.*

24 (b) The program shall be funded by a combination of public
25 and private funds, specifically federal funds made available to the
26 states as part of the 2009 stimulus package, as well as private
27 nonprofit and private corporate funds. All funds appropriated for
28 the purposes of this program shall be deposited into the Machinist
29 Investment Fund, which is hereby created.

30 (c) Community colleges, in partnership with local, workforce
31 investment boards, employers, and high schools, shall apply for
32 grants that shall be competitively awarded based upon a number
33 of criteria, including, but not limited to:

34 (1) Likelihood of meeting the objectives of the program,
35 specifically, ability to address the existing local and regional
36 industry manufacturing needs, while providing meaningful career
37 technical education opportunities for at-risk youth that are likely
38 to lead to employment after participation and to position pupils
39 for admission to additional higher education in a related field.

1 (2) Whether the adopted preapprenticeship curriculum in
2 aerospace technology, and machining technology generally,
3 conforms to the curriculum developed by the California
4 Community Colleges system pursuant to subdivision (c).

5 (3) Inclusion of an aggressive outreach plan demonstrating the
6 degree to which the pupils targeted to receive instruction may be
7 considered at risk, based upon factors such as prior academic
8 achievement, socioeconomic background, and school disciplinary
9 record. Special weight shall be given to the specific media
10 employed to reach the target pupil population.

11 (4) *Evidence that the application will advance an industry sector*
12 *strategy for addressing current and future labor needs, as well as*
13 *provide career paths for potential employees in the manufacturing*
14 *industry consistent with Division 8 (commencing with Section*
15 *15000) of the Unemployment Insurance Code.*

16 (5) *Evidence that the industry sector will benefit from the*
17 *regional economy in which it is located.*

18 (d) The program shall be implemented by the California
19 Community Colleges system which shall develop preapprenticeship
20 curriculum in aerospace technology, and machining technology
21 generally. It shall also identify the appropriate community college
22 campuses for implementation of the program based upon criteria
23 which shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

24 (1) The proximity to aerospace and other manufacturers with
25 machining labor needs.

26 (2) The ability of the community college campus or of a regional
27 occupational centers to provide sufficient in-house expertise and
28 laboratory facilities to teach the required curriculum.

29 (3) The willingness and availability of a local machinists union
30 to actively participate in program-related activities, including, but
31 not limited to, technical assistance for curriculum development,
32 mentoring, and recruiting pupils as future journeymen upon
33 completion of the preapprentice curriculum.

34 (4) Whether there are opportunities to build on existing
35 partnerships with local high schools in the region.

36 (e) Community college campuses selected for receipt of a
37 competitive grant in consultation with area high schools, shall
38 identify the location at which instruction shall occur, whether on
39 the high school campus, at a regional occupation center, or at a

1 community college. Factors such as availability of curriculum,
2 instructors, lab facilities, and transportation may be considered.
3 (f) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2015,
4 and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that
5 is enacted before January 1, 2015, deletes or extends that date.

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